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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/813,116

03/21/2001

Christer Fahraeus

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EXAMINER

BACKER, FIRMIN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3621

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/07/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 03/07/2007.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/813,116

Applicant(s)

FAHRAEUS, CHRISTER

Examiner

FIRMIN BACKER

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 and 33-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 and 33-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-23 and 33-52 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the

- a. "Imaginary surface"
- b. "Position coding pattern codes"
- c. "Address with one coordinate"
- d. "Identifier"

must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must

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be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 2, 34 are objected to because of the following informalities: Applicant disclose and imaginary surface. Examiner object for the fact that something that is imaginary does not exist.. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1-23 and 33-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

6. Claim 1, 7, 11, 12, 21, 33, 34, 39, 43, and 47 recite the limitation "subset." There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation. Applicant fails to disclose the set in the subset.
7. Claim 12, 15, 23 47 recite the limitation "the pair of coordinate". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
8. Claim 15, 23, 47 recite the limitation "the aid". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

10. Claims 1-23 and 33-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Simons et al (U.S. Patent No 6,230,143).
11. As per claims 1, 21, 22 and 33, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium for managing (*receive request, create*) valuable documents (*coupons*), the method being carried out using a computer (*computer and peripherals*) connected to a computer network (*network of*

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figs 3-5), the method comprising: receiving (*receive request for a coupon*) an order via the computer network relating to a valuable document; and creating (*generate*) the valuable document (*coupon*) in response to the order by associating with the valuable document a subset of a position-coding pattern (*a two dimensional Aztec coupon bar code that contains a finder structure and one or more nested squares, 70*) (*see figs 3-5, 7, column 4 lines 40-44, 5 lines 35-63*).

12. As per claims 2, and 34, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein the position-coding pattern codes coordinates of points on an imaginary surface and wherein the subset of the position-coding pattern codes coordinates within one coordinate area of a plurality of coordinate areas that are defined in the computer (*see column 6 line 46-62*).

13. As per claims 3 and 35, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein creating the valuable document includes storing information to reserve the one coordinate area (*see column 6 line 46-62*).

14. As per claims 4 and 36, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein creating the valuable document includes storing information to render usable the one coordinate area (*see column 4 line 53-60*).

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15. As per claims 5 and 37, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein creating the valuable document includes associating an address (*consumer address information*) with the one coordinate area (*see column 4 line 53-60*).

16. As per claims 6 and 38, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein creating the valuable document includes associating a monetary (*coupon value*) amount with the one coordinate area (*see column 4 line 53-60*).

17. As per claims 7 and 39, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium include an identifier, which identifies a user unit that is authorized to read the subset of the position-coding pattern, with the one coordinate area (*see column 6 line 46-62*).

18. As per claims 8 and 40, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein creating the valuable document includes storing an indication of a payment recipient, to whom the payment for the valuable document is to be transferred (*see column 6 line 46-62*).

19. As per claims 9, 10, 41 and 42 Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium further including forwarding the valuable document electronically via the computer network (*see figs 4, 5*).

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20. As per claims 11 and 43, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein the document is associated with a unique subset of the position-coding pattern (*see figs 3-5, 7, column 4 lines 40-44, 5 lines 35-63*).

21. As per claims 12 and 44, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium comprising: receiving a control signal comprising at least one pair of coordinates recorded from the valuable document; determining a coordinate area of a plurality of coordinates to which the pair of coordinates is a subset; and checking, on the basis of the determined coordinate area, whether the valuable document is acceptable (*see fig 1, column 7 line 46-col. 8 line 53*).

22. As per claims 13 and 45, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium further comprising marking the valuable document as used (*see figs 3-5, 7, column 4 lines 40-44, 5 lines 35-63*).

23. As per claims 14 and 46, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium further comprising forwarding a message included in the control signal to an address associated with the determined coordinate area (*see figs 4, 5*).

24. As per claims 15 and 47, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium managing valuable documents, the method being carried out using a computer connected to a computer network, wherein a plurality of coordinate areas (*a two dimensional Aztec coupon bar code that contains a finder structure and one or more nested squares, 70*) is defined in the

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computer, the method comprising: receiving a control signal (*reading a signal*) from the computer network, wherein the control signal comprises at least one pair of coordinates (*a two dimensional Aztec coupon bar code that contains a finder structure and one or more nested squares, 70*) that has been recorded by reading a position-coding pattern on a valuable document; determining a coordinate area (*a bar code*) of the plurality of coordinate areas to which the pair of coordinates belongs; and checking, with the aid of the determined coordinate area, whether the valuable document is acceptable (*determining whether the coupon is valid (see fig 1, column 7 line 46-col. 8 line 53)*).

25. As per claims 16 and 48, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium further comprising transmitting a signal to the computer network to indicate an acceptability of the valuable document (*see fig 1, column 7 line 46-col. 8 line 53*).

26. As per claims 17 and 49, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium further comprising marking the determined coordinate area as used (*see fig 1, column 7 line 46-col. 8 line 53*).

27. As per claims 18 and 50, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium further comprising identifying a signature in the received control signal and associating the signature with the determined coordinate area (*see figs 3-5, 7, column 4 lines 40-44, 5 lines 35-63*).

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28. As per claims 19 and 51, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium further comprising identifying, in the control signal, a payment amount, and comparing the payment amount with a total amount associated with the determined coordinate area (*see fig 1, column 7 line 46-col. 8 line 53*).

29. As per claims 20 and 52, Simons et al teach a method/computer readable medium further comprising identifying, in the control signal, an identifier which indicates the identity of a user unit used for reading the position coding pattern on the valuable document, wherein checking comprises comparing the identifier in the control signal with an identifier associated with the determined coordinate area (*see figs 3-5, 7, column 4 lines 40-44, 5 lines 35-63*).

Conclusion

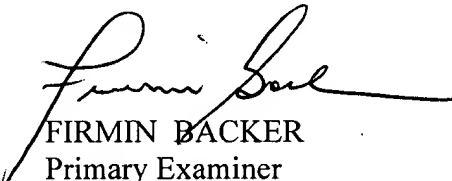
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FIRMIN BACKER whose telephone number is 571-272-6703.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew J. Fischer can be reached on (571) 272-6779. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



FIRMIN BACKER
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3621

February 28, 2007